

Submission to the senate

Mrs Monique McGregor & Mr Robert McGregor

We would like to take this opportunity to submit our objection to the resumption of the horror trade of live export. We tried to send our submission before the due date of the 15th of July, however we did find this difficult as I only became aware of this 30mins before the closing and it was delayed due to the confidentiality clause I did not discover until the following Monday. I hope you will include this letter as a part of your consideration.

We would firstly like to point out the fact that we are not lacking in sensitivity toward the NT farmers that rely on this type of trade. However, having discussed this with friends, and family members, that include farmers, stock agents, butchers and small children, Im convinced that nobody wants this to continue. We believe in the interest of making a stand for our morals as a nation we must stand firm against it. Its obvious that other countries do not have any respect for our values or morals, or cultural beliefs if that's what you would like to call it, so why pander to theirs? We have laws that prevent our animals being treated this way, so how can we turn a blind eye when we know we are sending animals to such a fate?

We can and have killed our stock Halal, humanely in our own country in the past. A lot of Australian abattoir workers lost their jobs due to this ceasing and the introduction of this horrific trade of live export. Nobody seemed to care as much about them as these NT farmers. Why is that? We could re employ these people and build more facilities including feed lots to process these animals in the top end. So there really is no need to continue this un Australian trade.

The MLA should be responsible for compensating these out of pocket farmers, due to their gross negligence and lack of duty of care. However, Im quite happy to contribute my tax dollars to these farmers if the MLA wont. Yes, thats right, I pay tax, and I believe I have the right to decide what my government uses it for.

Its time this country got a spine, a conscience and a heart. Its 18 yrs over due, but lets start now and stop this cruel practice. Its wrong and we all know it. I dare you to sit on a couch and watch it with the young members of your family then sleep well that night. Its black and white, its wrong.

We have given these countries every opportunity to change, but they cant see it as wrong, as we do. We cant trust them again. Nothing has changed and wont. We will never be able to get a camera in again without a pre warning, so just give up. I don't believe there are any good practicing abattoirs, so lets stop the trade. No other civilized country would consider sending their stock to this fate, so how can we?

It is still not mandatory to stun these poor animals before they have to suffer from having their throats slit, and this is after they survive the horrific conditions in feed lots after spending weeks at sea, cramped and terrified. We shouldn't be doing it!

Please listen to you public

Horrified tax payers